III. CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1.-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 19, wherein the identifier digits are the digits 8 to 15, N being equal to 8.

6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 19, wherein the producer digit is the digit 1.

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 19, wherein the nature-defining digit is the digit numbered 2.

8. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 19, wherein the M digits enable the encoding of a date.

9. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 19, wherein the M digits enabling the encoding of a date in the month/day/time (mmddhh) format.

10. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein a value of 0 or 1 for the digit numbered 2 corresponds to a temporary identifier.

11. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 19, wherein the M digits represent the period of time that has elapsed since the beginning of the year in progress, expressed in 1/900 000th fractions.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 11, wherein a value of 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8 for the digit numbered 2 corresponds to a temporary identifier.

13. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 19, wherein the M digits represent the period of time that has elapsed since the beginning of the year in progress, expressed in 1/800 000th fractions.

14. (Original) A method according to claim 13, wherein a value of 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7 for the digit numbered 2 corresponds to a temporary identifier.

15. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 19, wherein the M variability digits enable the identification of a content provider.

16. (Original) A method according to claim 15, wherein M-1 digits among the M digits enable the content provider to be identified, while 1 digit among the M digits enables the identifying of a contract between the user and the service provider.

17. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 19, wherein the identifier digits and the variability digits are encrypted.

18. (Original) A method according to claim 17, wherein the encryption algorithm is symmetrical and produces digits.

19. (Currently Amended) A method comprising producing, ~~through a gateway of an access provider,~~ a first isolating identifier of a multimedia user that is compatible with identifiers of a telephony network, said identifier having at least one first user identifier field, said producing including encrypting said first field including:~~by formatting the first isolating identifier in the following format:~~

formatting through a gateway of an access provider the first identifier so that the first identifier comprises N identifier digits for designating the user and has a maximum size of 15 digits, one digit being a computer representation for representing/encoding a decimal or hexadecimal digit and comprising 4 bits, and

the first identifier comprises at least one producer digit for designating the producer of the identifier,

formatting the first identifier so that the first identifier comprises at least one nature digit for defining the nature of the first identifier, and

formatting the first identifier so that the first identifier comprises M variability digits depending on said nature digit,

wherein:

the M variability digits depends on the nature digit so that a user's privacy is preserved,.

~~the first identifier has a maximum size of 15 digits, one digit being a computer representation for representing/encoding a decimal or hexadecimal digit and comprising 4 bits, and~~

~~the first identifier comprises at least one producer digit for designating the producer of the identifier.~~

20. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 8, wherein the M digits are the digits numbered 2 to 7.

21. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 9, wherein the M digits are the digits numbered 2 to 7.

22. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 11, wherein the M digits are the digits numbered 2 to 7.

23. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 13, wherein the M digits are the digits numbered 2 to 7.